



Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Serial No.: 10/713,000
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC Ref: Q78312

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of coating an optical fiber, comprising the following steps: ~~the method including a step of coating said fiber with a curable coating composition; and a step of curing said composition, which contains an unsaturated compound having a double bond and an oxidation catalyst, in which method wherein~~ said curing step includes an in-line first phase ~~consisting in of~~ exposing said coated fiber to UV radiation for a time shorter than the time needed for complete curing followed by an off-line second phase ~~consisting in of~~ placing said coated fiber in an oxidizing medium in order to complete curing.

Claim 2 (original): The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said oxidizing medium is gaseous.

Claim 3 (original): The method claimed in claim 2 wherein said oxidizing medium is oxygen.

Claim 4 (original): The method claimed in claim 2 wherein said oxidizing medium is air.

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Claim 5 (original): The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said oxidation catalyst is a metal carboxylate.

Claim 6 (original): The method claimed in claim 5 wherein said oxidation catalyst is a carboxylate of at least one metal chosen in the group comprising cobalt, manganese, zirconium, calcium, zinc, aluminum, and lithium.

Claim 7 (original): The method claimed in claim 1 wherein the proportion of said catalyst is at most equal to 10% by weight of said composition.

Claim 8 (original): The method claimed in claim 7 wherein the proportion of said catalyst is from 0.5% by weight to 10% by weight of said composition.

Claim 9 (original): The method claimed in claim 8 wherein the proportion of said catalyst is from 0.5% by weight to 10% by weight of said composition.

Claim 10 (original): The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said unsaturated compound is chosen from an acrylate oligomer and a monomer.

Claim 11 (original): The method claimed in claim 10 wherein said unsaturated compound is chosen from a urethane-acrylate oligomer and a monomer.

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Claim 12 (original): The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said composition further contains a photocure initiator.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said first phase is carried out at a speed at least equal to ~~1,000~~ 1,000 m/min.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method claimed in claim 13 wherein said first phase is carried out at a speed at least equal to ~~1,200~~ 1,2000 m/min.

Claim 15 (withdrawn): An optical fiber including a cured coating obtained by the method claimed in claim 1 and wherein said coating contains an oxidation catalyst.

Claim 16 (withdrawn): The optical fiber claimed in claim 15 wherein said coating includes a plurality of layers and at least one of said layers contains an oxidation catalyst.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): A telecommunication cable including at least one optical fiber as claimed in claim 15.